



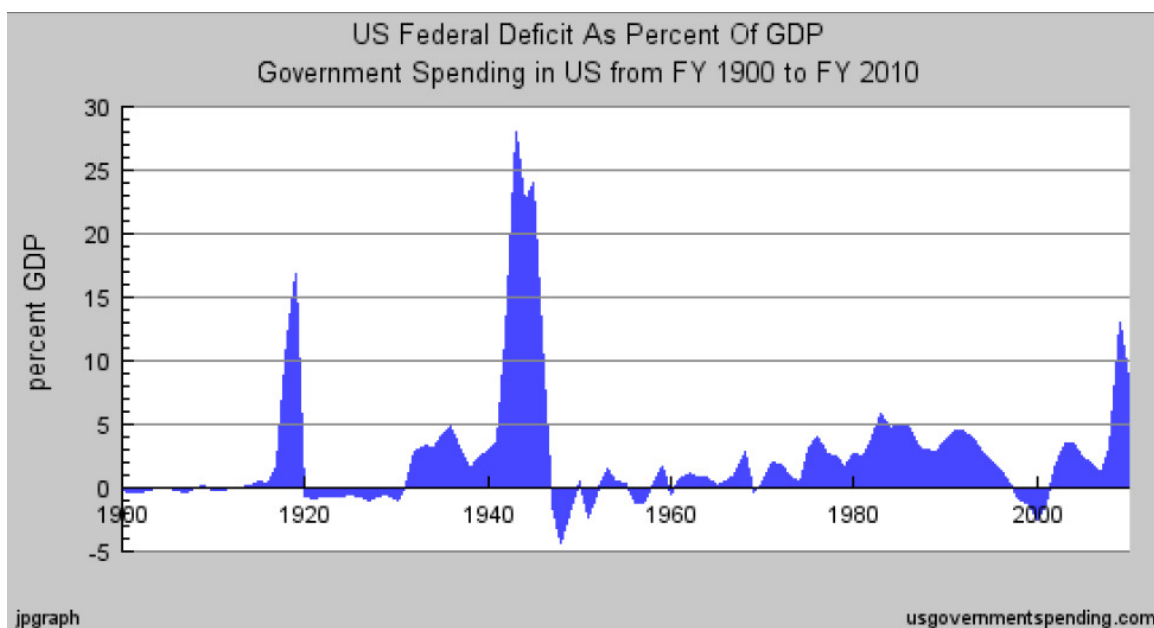
Stanton & Castleton, Inc.

An independent firm

Let's Review: Our Monthly Newsletter.....12/01/09

This month:

With 2009 coming to a close we'd like to share some thoughts on economic perspective. Our country along with most of the world has been toughing out a very broad recession and while we appear to have avoided the worst case scenario it may be some time before we are fully recovered. While all this is going on around us and often "to" us both financially and emotionally it can be easy to slip into a very negative outlook. If we look back over time we can see this country has been through similar crises and persevered.



If you look at the graph above we can examine the current fear of the huge deficit the U.S. is creating (as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product) compared to the past. It is true the overall number is larger than ever, however as a percentage of the total U.S. economy (which is also much larger now) we can see that we have survived similar times in the past. Most of the big spikes or periods of long deficit were during periods of war: WWI, WWII, Vietnam, Cold War, Gulf War I and Iraq/Afghanistan. In each case

we saw the overall economy recover and resume its long term growth trends. Our belief is this will again be the case....the question is when? We think that guessing when is the wrong approach. The real question is will we resume growing? Once we are confident in this the exact timing is not as important. The World has been clamoring for the U.S. to consume less, borrow less and save more for the past 3 or 4 decades....and now we are trying to do all three at once. It is this shift in fundamental consumption and savings patterns that is slowing the recovery. However, the good news is within a few years the U.S. consumer will emerge stronger financially. Investment and consumption will be from income and savings not massive creation of debt.

This will take some time but the end result will be a healthier economy and hopefully a new long term bull market....provided we make reasonable decisions now. So with 2010 on the horizon we're optimistic for the future.

Bob:

Joyce and I got to have all the boys home for Thanksgiving. Our son Jordan flew in from North Carolina to complete the picture. He is now the assistant squad leader for his Recon team! He also has completed about 6 months of college credits by taking classes offered in the Marines. Ethan is playing in the CIF semi-finals this week in football! Cole and Ryan are bored/proud of both of them....as only brothers can be! Happy Holidays!

Ron:

Are the holiday's already here...so soon? Looks like I will have my work cut out for me over the next few weeks as we try to get the home-front ready for the onslaught. The kids will all be there to help me, right? Let's just say I will not hold my breath. Sarcasm aside, we really do look forward seeing all the friends & family during these days. Here's wishing all of you Festive & Happy Holidays!

Amy:

I have been here two months and two holidays! So far I have met most of you over the phone and look forward to seeing more of you at the Open House! Ron and Bob are great to work with as are all the wonderful clients. I am getting to know the whole operation so please call for anything you may need. Happy Holidays!

This month “Financial Topic”: One more cartoon!



*Don't miss our 2009 Holiday Open House!
December 17th from 5:00pm to 8:00pm
Our office: 1151 Dove Street, Suite 115 Newport Beach, CA 92660*

“In the end, how your investments behave is much less important than how you behave.”

**Benjamin Graham
The Intelligent Investor**

The Numbers:

Closing Values / 11-30-2009

DOLLAR	weaker	NASDAQ	2,144.60	+99.49
10-YR YIELD	3.20%	S&P 500	1,095.63	+59.44
VOLUME NYSE	1,348,131,250	DJIA	10,344.84	+632.11

Provided by Standard & Poor's

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Manage.....Monitor.....Maintain

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